

## HOW IT IS PUSHED ALONG.

It was the imprisonment of a labor leader that caused Socialism to spread over Australia. It was the imprisonment of the officers of the Western Federation of Miners in Idaho that has caused it to go "hog-wild" in this country. In Australia the imprisoned leader was elected, while in Idaho, a member of the law-making body, Wm. D. Haywood, one of the imprisoned officials in Idaho, has been nominated by the Socialists as their candidate for governor of Colorado and indications are that they will elect him.

At East St. Louis, on the 9th, the Socialists held a picnic at which 15,000 people gathered. In Milwaukee, Wis., the Socialists have twelve members of the city council and hold the balance of power. In the state legislature they have five members. A press dispatch from Milwaukee, dated Saturday says: "A wholesale project to condemn all local public utilities and to establish several industries here, to be operated by the municipality, has been launched by the Social Democratic party of Milwaukee and is pending before the common council and will come up before the State Legislature when that body meets in the winter. The plan is the most sweeping of any movement toward municipal ownership that has ever been attempted in this country, and its outcome will undoubtedly be watched with great interest throughout the United States. Here is what the Socialists propose to do:

- To condemn the street railway system and have the city assume control.
- To condemn the electric lighting plant and operate it for and by the city.
- To condemn the gas works and operate it for and by the city.
- To condemn the telephone company's property and operate it by the city.
- To establish and operate a municipal ice plant.
- To establish and operate a municipal slaughter house.
- To establish and operate a municipal coal yard.
- To establish and operate a municipal dredge.
- To establish and operate a municipal plumbing establishment.

It seems that wherever Socialists get into lawmaking bodies their first move is to make trouble—for the special privileged class. They just butt right in and proceed to "disturb business." Not only are they going to raise trouble around town, but they are going to the State capitol with their five members to make more trouble by fighting for the rights of the people there.

Not only will they demand state insurance and like "anarchistic" measures, but they will demand a law giving their city the right to condemn the property of public service corporations just as the public service corporations now condemn the city's property for their use. They hold that "what is sauce for the goose ought to be sauce for the gander," and Mr. W. F. Thiel, an able lawyer who heads the movement, says:

"We take the position that the State can give public-service corporations the right to condemn property, that it can give municipalities the same power to condemn public-service corporation property. The corporations operate by the authority of the State and municipality. It seems reasonable, therefore, that the municipalities have the right to take over such property. What we propose to do is to get the legislature to give the city power to condemn the properties. They are monopolies and will always remain such."

"We then propose to appoint appraisers, give the corporations whatever their plants are worth and let the city run them. We propose to pay for actual property and not for franchise or good will. The franchise comes from the city and there is no reason why the city should pay for them."

Begins to look like they might be getting ready to "divide up the property" at Milwaukee. The enemies of Socialism say that it is the intention of the Socialist to "divide up the property." If that be true, they are certainly more generous than the capitalists. No "divide" with them—except among themselves.

There is one remarkable feature about the Socialist movement. Neither its papers nor its members make any brags. Usually party leaders deceive their followers by blow and bombast about "carrying the election." Nothing of the kind among Socialists.

Their vote usually exceeds their expectations. Two years ago they polled nearly half a million votes in the nation. They calculate to cast between 700,000 and one million this fall and hope to elect their first congressman.

They claim that one Socialist will make another in twelve months—thus doubling their strength every year. Their past proves this calculation to be conservative. They expect to poll between two million and three million in 1908, and calculate to carry the nation in 1912.

## THE KICKER AND BRYAN.

The Kicker and Mr. Bryan have about reached the forks of the road. In 1896 and again in 1900 I regarded Mr. Bryan as the "peerless one," but in 1904, when he went off after Parker, Bryan took a tumble. And now that the gold crowd are shouting "Bryan!" I wonder what it all means.

Of course these fellows never show their hand until after they have raked in the "pot," and we can only guess what they have up their sleeves.

Of late the Republic slobbers all over Bryan. Six and ten years ago that paper opposed Bryan and his "silver heresy."

Here is the way it looks to me. Fifteen years ago there was unrest among the people similar to now. The Populist party sprang up and grew very fast. It captured Kansas and one or two other state governments and was going to put up a strong fight for the presidency in 1896.

But the Democrats headed them off by stealing their platform and nominating a man who had been engaged in the fusion business with the Populists of Nebraska.

Again the people are up in arms against the "too old" parties, and this trip they appear under the banner of Socialism. Public ownership is what they demand. Mr. Bryan has already declared for this principle, but with a string to it. He wants public ownership in the same way that the gold bugs wanted free silver—"when the people are ready for it."

To me it seems that the same old bunch is at the same old game and in 1908, if the Socialist party appears threatening, the Democrats will steal their platform and nominate Bryan or some other man to be slaughtered.

Mr. Bryan has hindered reform more than all others combined. People have trusted and followed him. When the Populists were marching onward successfully, he tore them asunder and set back the tide at least twelve years. He insists on doing the impossible feat of reforming the Democratic party. Might as well undertake to reform the devil.

The capitalist newspapers and politicians are, no doubt, causing Mr. Bryan to think that he is really "it" just now, but when the hot air subsides he will discover that he has no greater following among the masses than have Dave Francis or Dave Hill.

## MODERN JOURNALISM.

Political organs fight shy of discussing any public question with the Kicker. They content themselves by quarreling among themselves. Republican argument to off-set Democratic argument, and Democratic argument to off-set Republican argument is plentiful and can be had free of charge, from any political news factory. Boiled down, it amounts to "you're another." But when the "editors," who depend upon the political news bureaus for argument, collide with an idea, then they are as helpless as babes.

I have often wondered why just anybody could stick himself up as an editor. A doctor must have certain qualifications. So must a dentist, an embalmer, a lawyer, a teacher, a horse doctor, etc. Even a barber is governed by state laws and must show that public safety is not endangered by his being at large. But any blundering fool can be an "editor."

And a quack editor can do more injury than a quack at anything else. The public is inclined to believe what it sees in print and swallows a bought and paid for "idea" as readily as an honest opinion.

But there can be no relief. Politicians need the quack, and we are governed by politicians acting for capital.

## THE FARMER'S UNION.

The farmer's movement seems to have taken root in Scott county. So far only two unions have been reported to the Kicker—one at Cross Plains and one at Macedonia.

The secretaries of unions should send in reports of their doings so that other farmers may become interested. They are entitled to free space in the Kicker. All over the county there is a sentiment among farmers to organize, and in some localities are only awaiting an organizer. J. W. Huff, of Sylvania township, was here Wednesday and said that he was waiting for his neighbor, Joe Kiefer, of the same township, was here two weeks ago and said the same of his community.

The farmers of Scott county have an advantage that farmers of other counties do not enjoy. They start in with a newspaper friendly to their cause. The farmers scarcely realize that this means to them in the event of thorough organization.

## A DEMOCRATIC CLUB.

The Richland township Democratic club was organized at Sikeston on a Tuesday night of last week. Marsh Arnold went down to touch off the fireworks.

It is evident that the capitalists who run the Democratic end of the Punch and Judy show down there are not favorably impressed with Bryan's leaning toward public ownership and their club was not named for him.

The report sent in to the Kicker gives the number present as 65—many of whom were Republicans. The presence of the Republicans is explained in this way: On the Thursday night previous the Republicans organized in the same hall (Kendall's opera house) and were to meet again on that night. Many attended, supposing it to be a Republican meeting. The reporter does not say whether the Republicans present discovered their mistake. Unless these meetings are labeled, anyone is liable to be deceived.

The officers elected were C. E. Bruton, president; M. G. Gresham, first vice-president; Dr. O. E. Kendall, second vice-president; Joe W. Myer, third vice-president; Wm. L. Carroll, fourth vice-president; L. M. Stallcup, treasurer; Ben L. Barnes, secretary.

It would seem that the "Democrats" of Richland township are not so careful about a man's "loyalty to the party" as they used to be. Ben Barnes, their secretary, was the loudest Walbridge shout in the county at the last election. He had no use for "Holy Joe" at all.

But that doesn't matter now. Think what a strong team Billy and "shade tree gang" will make. Harmony? Well, yes. Yum, yum! yum!!

## SHAW ON RAILROADS.

I never read the "cut and dried" political speeches of the politicians, for I have been reading them so long that they are not new to me. It is always the same old rot with not enough freshness to disguise it. If anything should be said that old Father Noah neglected to mention, the daily papers are kind enough to put the passage in the headlines to attract attention.

The other day Secretary Shaw made a speech at Memphis and the Globe-Democrat called it a reply to Bryan on public ownership. Mr. Shaw said that the railroads paid in taxes \$4,000,000 annually, and that the people would consider the matter before letting go of that slice of revenue.

This same Mr. Shaw speaks at Sikeston this Saturday. I would like to have him tell us in what corn field Gould and Harriman and Hill and Morgan raise crops to pay this enormous sum? I would like to have him tell the people of Southeast Missouri where they get the change to foot the bill.

If Mr. Shaw finds this a puzzling question, let him ask a melon shipper whose product is often entirely confiscated to pay freight—and it has happened that he received a "dun" for the "balance due."

Not only do the patrons of railroads pay the taxes, but they also pay four hundred million dollars annually as interest on water—over capitalization. Railroads are capitalized at three times their cost, and this over-capitalization must earn dividends to its holders—and the people must dig up.

The National Farmer's Union has fixed the minimum price of cotton 11c. That's the way to talk it.

## LABORERS "PROTECTED."

Up at Granite City, the American laborers are getting a dose of "protection" that the Republicans yawn so much about. The Americans are being gradually displaced by the lowest order of foreign labor, and last week a riot resulted in which 700 workmen took part. One was killed and many were wounded at the steel works.

Steel is one of our especially protected products. While the owners of the steel mills, through their hirelings, preach "protection to American labor," their agents are in foreign countries gathering up the offals of humanity and ship them to this country to take the place of native toilers. The immigrants live like hogs and eat, therefore, work for less pay.

At Granite city the Americans undertook to protect their employment, claiming that they could not live in the same community with the filthy foreigners.

Trouble resulted and on Monday the Americans were given the full measure of Republican "protection." Two hundred special police were sworn in to make them accept the conditions offered by the mill owners or leave.

The United States has three battle ships near Savannah and War Secretary Taft is over there to "promote peace." You see, the modern way of promoting peace is to pull your gun on a fellow and tell him to throw up his hands. As stated in the Kicker when the trouble in Cuba broke out, our Captains of Industry have Cuba by the throat just as they have the United States, and they've got the guns to prove it. This "benevolent assimilation" business may be a little expensive, but it works.

## BOOTLAC IN WILD RIDE.

Steals an Automobile and Scorches Through New York's Business Streets—Is Caught.

New York.—Tommaso Rocco, 15 years old, a bootblack, has for some time had great desire to operate an automobile. As a result he finds himself in the lockup. At the same time a big repair bill on a red touring car will have to be met by its owner, Charles Seitz, dealer in automobile supplies.

Tommaso knew he could run a machine, and when he saw Mr. Seitz jump out of his seat in front of the Hotel Navarro, he gathered near to feast his eyes. Mr. Seitz entered the hotel. That was the last he saw of his machine until he found it, with two bent axles, on the sidewalk of Broadway, near Thirty-ninth street.

Feasting his eyes failed to satisfy Tommaso. He jumped into the seat and turned on a lever or two. The machine gave a bound and the boy joyously "hooped" on the horn as he sped up the avenue at a pace forbidden by law. At Forty-second street he turned east, past the Metropole hotel, nearly taking down a lamppost on the corner, and then, without slowing up, he swung into Broadway, going south. Luckily the street happened to be comparatively free of vehicles at the time, for the gas of the machine left only a red blur.

At Thirty-ninth street Patrolman John J. Brady shouted to the boy, but a grin was the only answer. As the boy grinned he lost his hold on the steering apparatus and ran on the sidewalk into a crowd of pedestrians. The latter scattered like chaff, while the machine dashed down the sidewalk, coming to a short and sudden stop as it hit the iron pillars. The boy jumped and ran, but was caught.

## GOOD NEWS FOR PIE LOVER.

Yankee Genius Invents a Wood Pulp Plate That Banishes Indigestion Forever.

Benton, Mo.—There is hope! The dreaded indigestion that lurks in the famous Yankee pie is now averted by the patent wood-pulp pie plate which is being turned out at rate of 300,000 a day for one-fifth of a cent apiece by a pulp mill in Shawmut village.

The Yankee love of pie is only held in check by the Yankee caution against indigestion caused by the bottom crust being heavy from the lard and other fats which are baked into the pie and have no chance of escape. The tin pie plate, which has hitherto served as the cooking stencil for the pie, has always allowed a greater or less accumulation of this indigestible material at the bottom of the pie.

A genius from the Vermont "pie belt," where they have pie three times a day, conceived the idea of a porous pie plate which would absorb the fatty substances of the lard when the pie was baked. He experimented with various substances and finally hit on wood pulp, which can be worked up into pie plates with ease and accuracy. He rolled out a pie plate of wood-pulp, let it harden and baked a pie on it. Result—no fatty under-crust, no indigestion, and complete immunity from harm on the most unlimited pie diet.

He took his scheme to the big pulp makers at Shawmut, and a pie plate factory has been established there, which is turning out shelves of "non-indigestion pie plates," to an impatient market.

## Business Locals.

School books and school supplies of every kind can be had at the 42-4c Benton Drug Store.

I have for sale a well improved 80-acre farm 3 miles south of Ilmo at a special bargain if taken soon. 44-6c D. H. Harper, Benton, Mo.

For Sale—Several good residences in Oran at a bargain and on easy terms. D. H. Harper, Benton, Mo.

\$50 REWARD—We will pay a \$50 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone guilty of stealing stock belonging to any of our members.

Stockmen's Union, Vanduser, Mo. I have for sale accurate blue-print maps of Scott county, 42x48 inches. These maps show all farms and owners, and ditches, roads, railroads, buildings, etc. Price, \$2.50 each, postpaid. Claude B. Hay, Blodgett, Mo.

FOR SALE—My farm, consisting of 153 acres, about 120 acres in cultivation—remainder in woods. Good house, good barn and outbuildings, and plenty of good water. Located adjoining Kelso on the north. For further information see or write FRANK WEISMUELLER, Kelso, Mo.

For Sale—200 acre farm, finely located level land, all under fence and in cultivation, except 30-acre woods lot. Good houses, good barn and all necessary out-buildings, good water. Within half a mile of school and church. Grows all small grain, corn and melons. Two crops a year can be grown by sowing peas on wheat stubble. At a bargain. For further information address, Box 63, Vanduser, Mo. 41-4c.

I have farms for sale of various sizes in Scott county, near Crowder, Kelso, New Hamburg, Oran, Morley, Benton, Cary, Blodgett, Diehlstadt and Commerce. Also 4,000 acres of improved farm land about 50 miles north of Memphis, Tenn., at from \$25 to \$35 per acre on easy terms and in tracts to suit. If you want to sell, list your property with me. I stand a hundred chances to sell to your ones. If you want to buy, see 19 D. H. HARPER, Benton, Mo. 41-4c.

JOHN McWILLIAMS, ATTORNEY AT LAW AND NOTARY. Office up-stairs in Robertson B'dg. BENTON, MO. 81

## IT WAS AN UNLUCKY FRIDAY.

Columbus Discovered America on That Day, Therefore English Lady Holds to the Superstition.

Once upon a time I was in a railroad accident. It was one of the only two I have ever experienced and I have traveled over 750,000 miles on trains and steamers, three times as far as from here to the moon, says Bishop McCabe, in the Christian Advocate.

A broken wheel threw the train off the track. The car I was in was shattered very much. Seated just ahead of me was an elderly lady who was suffering from rheumatism. It was necessary to change cars. I helped her off the car, carried her valise and gave her the support of my arm. Behind us came a noble-looking English lady with her husband by her side.

She was scolding him well for starting on their journey on Friday. "I told you, James," she said, "something would happen if we should start on Friday."

"Madam," said I, "do you know that Columbus set sail to discover America on Friday?"

She looked at me with indignation and said: "Sir, in my opinion it is a great pity that America was ever discovered at all."

So she held her opinion that Friday was an unlucky day. The old lady who had the rheumatism was convulsed with laughter, while the English lady went on ahead of us, scolding James for daring to disregard her warning not to start on Friday.

If there is such a thing as luck, surely the American republic has had its full share among the nations of the earth, and this republic was created by 13 colonies of the mother country. It can be proved that 13 is the most lucky number there is, if interesting coincidences may be considered indications of "luck."

There is no such thing as luck. There is such a thing as Providence. "Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass."

## MR. DOOLEY: "HER" STORY.

Writer Tells of Bear Cub Which Exhibited Great Liking for Family at Yellowstone Park.

A few years ago, Mr. Walker, of the Yellowstone Park, while on horseback, ran down a silver-tip cub, and when I sketched it the cub was fastened to a tree, relates Dan Beard, in Recreation.

The cub was named Mr. Dooley, but there was some mistake in this, as the young monster was not a mister, though, as it appears "he" was a she.

I placed my sketching stool just out of reach of the cub, and while I worked with my pencil, Mr. Dooley spent "this" time scraping the dirt with his paws, making long canals in the loose earth as "he" backed away, but all the time keeping "his" wicked little pig eyes fastened on me.

Every once in a while "he" would make a sudden rush at me and end it with a half-strangled gurgling growl.

When the season was over, the commander of the post stated that he intended to send Mr. Dooley to the Washington zoo. This grieved Mr. Walker, until the late Maj. Bach innocently asked if Dooley never escaped, and the next morning it was discovered that Dooley had escaped.

Next spring when Mrs. Walker arrived with her husband at the canyon, to open the hotel, Dooley was waiting to greet them on the broad veranda.

## Lipton Began Saving Early.

From the time he was 15 until he was 17 Sir Thomas Lipton saved \$500. He earned this in America and took it back with him as the foundation of the fortune which he was to build up in the older country. While he was saving he was sending back money to his parents from his wages for work in the Carolina rice fields. His Scotch instinct had taught him, he has said, that the only way to have money was to save it.

Speed of the Gulf Stream. Three miles an hour is about the average speed of the gulf stream, which flows from the Gulf of Mexico. At certain places, however, it runs as fast as 51 miles an hour.

Gracful. "Is your father a graceful man?" "I should say so; you ought to see him pose when he writes a check."—Gleaner Post.

The  
**Scott County Kicker**  
Is the People's Paper.  
It is Not Muzzled!  
Wears No Man's Collar.  
Every Honest Taxpayer Should  
Patronize it!

## TO THE PUBLIC.

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